



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

RUSS 355.5
Russian Literature in Translation (Tolstoy and Dostoevsky)
Fall 2018

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Mark Conliffe

OFFICE LOCATION: Craigie Hall D 304

OFFICE HOURS: R 3:30-4:30 pm and by appointment

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (403) 220-2163

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DESCRIPTION

This course introduces and examines in detail two nineteenth-century Russian novels, Lev Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* and Fyodor Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*. It is concerned with literary interpretation and analysis, paying especial attention to literary, social, and philosophical aspects of these two novels and to placing these novels in the context of the Russian literary tradition.

The course requires active involvement of each class member as students and instructor come together around the texts and work through their meaning and significance. Thus, each class member is responsible in this involvement and will be expected to contribute consistently and meaningfully in all course work.

OBJECTIVES

The course aims to develop students' skills in analyzing and understanding representations of ideas and human experience in literary texts. It emphasizes close readings of the novels and of critical responses to them, and it introduces students to ways in which artistic structure and rhetorical devices reveal particular attitudes in the works. It will explore how these attitudes (a) express or challenge cultural values, (b) inform our understanding of the topics they raise, and (c) enhance our appreciation for Tolstoy's and Dostoevsky's artistic achievement. As students work towards these objectives, they will gain fuller understanding of the roles of literature, and of these two novels specifically, in Russian culture.

OUTCOMES

With this description and these objectives in mind, students will work toward the following outcomes in the course:

- They will appreciate stylistic features that distinguish texts;
- They will comprehend significance of form, including styles or genres, in textual communication;
- They will understand challenges involved in textual interpretation and strategies to address them;
- They will demonstrate ability to distinguish the dynamic relations among author, reader, and text;
- They will be able to comment on the place of these novels in the Russian literary tradition.



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DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

- Class participation 15%
- Claims assignment 4%
- Paragraphs (2) 6%
- Analyses (3) 30%
- Midterm 15%
- Vocabulary checks 5%
- Course paper 25%
 - Paper plan / proposal (claim, introductory paragraph, stages of argument) 8%
 - Paper 17%

GRADING SCALE

A+ 90-100	B+ 77-79	C+ 67-69	D+ 56-59
A 85-89	B 74-76	C 64-66	D 50-55
A- 80-84	B- 70-73	C- 60-63	D- 0-49

REQUIRED TEXTS

Dostoevsky, Fyodor. *The Brothers Karamazov*. Trans. Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002.
Tolstoy, Leo. *Anna Karenina*. Trans. Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. New York: Penguin, 2000.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Please refer to D2L.

COURSE NOTES

- This is a discussion-based class that benefits from your participation. You should come to class with questions and insights about the works, questions and insights that you are willing to share with others. Please do not hesitate to ask questions or put forward new interpretations in class. Any interpretation is a viable one if you can support it. Please see the Class Participation Rubric and Guide (D2L) for more detail on participation in this class.
- Because the course is discussion based, it is critically important that you do the reading for each class session. If you miss a class, whether excused or unexcused, you must write a 300-word analysis, analyzing (not retelling) the reading for the day you missed. Your participation grade in the course will be lowered by 1/3 for every short paper you do not turn in within a week of your return to class. More than two unexcused absences will result in a full grade deduction from your final course grade (thus a B+ will be reduced to a B); each additional unexcused absence will result in an additional deduction of one full grade from your final grade. Persistent lateness or failure to prepare adequately for class discussions can also result in deductions from the final grade.
- There are four due dates for analyses. You are required to complete three. If you complete all four, I will mark them all and consider only the three strongest analyses in the calculation of your course grade. Please see the schedule for analyses on D2L.
- Screens: In class I do permit you to use your laptop / notebook to take notes or to read an electronic version of the text, but during class sessions you are not permitted to use them or other electronic devices for web searches or any non-class related activity. If I notice that you are using your electronic device for anything other than taking notes or reading, I will ask you immediately to turn it off, and you will not be permitted to bring it to class again.
- Ready: Please do your best to get a drink of water and go to the bathroom before class starts. If you have to leave during the class, please close the door gently.



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ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts.

The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.



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In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SAFEWALK

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

STUDENT UNION INFORMATION

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.